

KRAB KRONICLE

506th Aerospace Expeditionary Group

EXPEDITIONARY AIRMEN • SUSTAINING GLOBAL REACH • MAINTAINING AIR DOMINANCE
AND SUPPORT • TO STABILIZE A NATION • SO FREEDOM CAN FLOURISH



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Kirkuk Air Base, Iraq

Sept. 5, 2003



Photo by Maj. Roger Lawson

Waterworld

Tech. Sgt. Kelly Leslie, 506th Air Expeditionary Group PERSCO team, picks up some of the water bottles in Tent City Aug. 29. Kirkuk residents picked up pallets of water bottles and excess trash as part of "Tidy Friday." More than 100 people volunteered to pick up trash throughout Tent City.

New procedure for travel outside of Kirkuk Air Base

By Tech. Sgt. Mark Getsy

506th Air Expeditionary Group Public Affairs

New procedures have been established for people who need to travel outside the wire.

The new policy, which supersedes the former "Off Base Rules of Engagement," is on the O: drive under all personnel.

According to Master Sgt. Steven Bailey, 506th AEG Antiterrorism/Force Protection Cell, off-base travel will be for official business only; however, the commander or vice

commander will consider exceptions on a case-by-case basis.

"The request will be routed through our office, OSI, the security forces and then the group commander," said Bailey. "Then the letter will be signed by the command post representative prior to departure and presented to the security escort personnel manning the gate. The safety of our personnel and assets are our number one priority."

For more information on the new off-base travel policy, call the AT/FP Cell at 460-0286.

ECES building Kirkuk's future

By Master Sgt. Joseph Walsh

506th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron

Some may say the path to freedom in Iraq started 13 years ago; the truth is it's here and now and it hasn't come quick or easy.

The foundation built all those years ago is a strong one that still today enables us to project airpower and dominance over our adversaries at will.

Helping lead the way are the members of the 506th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron, a varied group of warriors from all walks of life, countries and specialties – Reservists, Guardsmen, active-duty, and Latvians.

At the cornerstone of this foundation are four simple words, "One Team, One Fight." Your engineers continue to build on this foundation each day and draw strength from those four simple words. The fruits of our labor are visible to all, produced by CE operations and engineering. Some aren't so visible, but give you piece of mind just knowing they're in place when needed like firefighters, readiness and explosive ordnance disposal technicians.

Sometimes we take for granted the little things in life, like escaping from the heat into a cool area; eating hot meals without adding water; the power that runs our computer; washing clothes - minus the rock and board; moving out of tents and into structure; and destroying stockpiles of weapons that once were the tools of our enemy used to suppress their people and commit crimes against humanity.

Your expeditionary civil engineers proudly bring these perks of life to you free of charge.

Their days start when most are still asleep and never really end – emergencies and 24-hour construction projects continue at a feverish pace in the land of the shifting sands.

The phrase "Rome wasn't built in a day" may have been true, but that's only because the foreman didn't have

"Rest assured they temper progress with safety and will create a joint fighting base like no other. We don't just make history, we build it."

– Master Sgt. Joseph Walsh

the same vision as the 506th ECES leadership.

Rest assured they temper progress with safety and will create a joint fighting base like no other. We don't just make history, we build it.

This vision is shared by all the flights; electricians, engineers, heavy equipment operators, plumbers, carpenters, explosive ordnance specialists, entomology, HVAC readiness technicians and firefighters alike. Spun by the leadership that fosters this intricately woven fabric into their work ethic in the form of the first sergeant, operations chief, flight chiefs and their commander.

"One man's treasure is another man's junk."

Almost all look at the new dining facility, "cadillacs" or washing machine's as required quality of life improvements; your engineers see plans, exhaustive man-hours in the 120 plus degree heat and continual maintenance.

Take solace though, when it's time to part, a little piece of each engineer will be left behind in a door-frame, spent weapons case, burned out area of grass or even a new gazebo. Make no mistake they will be missed as they already are by their loved one's but they will gladly replace those four special words, "One Team, One Fight" here's the new guy.

Be assured they will leave their mark, but they will all leave behind a better place for them being here, lifelong friendships and more work ahead for the "new guys" on the path to freedom.



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by the public affairs office of this installation. All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated.

The KRAB KRONICLE accepts stories, photographs and commentaries, which may be submitted to the PA staff at the group headquarters building or can be e-mailed to lee.smith@krab.aorcentaf.af.mil

Submission deadline is noon. Monday the week before publication. All submissions are edited for content and Air Force journalistic style.

For more information, visit the PA office in the 506th AEG HQ building or call 460-0132.

(Flag is courtesy of Michelle Butzgy, Pope AFB, N.C.)

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News briefs

New shuttle schedule

The base shuttle is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The shuttle will make stops every half hour at the pool, network control center, Gate 2, Armory and through Tent City.

For more information, call 460-0244.

DHL shipping available

DHL personal shipping services are now available. Shipping times to and from the United States and Europe are between 4-5 business days. Flights are currently leaving Kirkuk every Monday, Wednesday and Friday around noon.

For more information, go to the Air Terminal Operations Center in Building 110 or send an e-mail to andrew.barber@krab.aorcentaf.af.mil.

Pax, cargo info online

Passenger and cargo information is now available on-line. TMO customers

can now gain access to cargo shipping requests, travel tips and useful web links.

Log onto <http://www.krab.aorcentaf.af.mil/506AEG/ELRS/tmo.asp>.

Arabic language class

The Arabic Language class will resume at the Chapel Tent beginning Sunday. Classes are taught Sunday through Wednesday. The classes are broken into four groups, which meet two times a week. For more information and class times, call 460-0806.

Iron Man/Woman competition

The base will hold it's first-ever Iron Man/Iron Woman Competition Sept. 23. For more information, call 460-0277.

Rising Four meeting

The Rising Four, a group comprised of Air Force, Army, and other junior enlisted members, will meet Tuesday at 8:15 a.m. in the Cantina.

Intramural football league

All squadrons who want to participate in the upcoming intramural flag football season can sign up now at the fitness center. Letters of intent are due to the fitness center Sept. 13. The season is scheduled to begin Sept. 16.

For more information, call 460-0271.

Intramural football officials

The fitness center is looking for volunteers to officiate the upcoming intramural flag football season Sept. 16. For more information, call 460-0271.

SUPS customer service

A comprehensive database of the items available in the base service store is now available on the "O" drive.

The link is: `<\\FS-KRAB-01\Organizations$\elrs\Databases\Customer_BSS.mdb>`

Customers can register as a BSS customer, search the inventory for available items and more.

Warrior of the Week



Photo by Senior Airman Lee S. Smith

**Staff Sgt.
Lataska Brown**
506th Expeditionary
Logistics Readiness
Squadron
Home station: Ramstein
Air Base, Germany
Arrived in the AOR:
July 7
How do you contribute to the mission of the 506th AEG?

I supply members of the 506th Air Expeditionary Group with the equipment required to successfully

fight the war in Iraq.

What is your favorite aspect of this deployment?

Going to the gym.

Besides your family, what do you miss most about the states?

Well, since I've been living overseas for about four years there's not much I miss about the states.

What food do you miss the most?

Meatball subs from Subway.

Base gears up for Sports Day



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Charlein Sheets

Kirkuk athletes compete in the relay race during the August Sports Day.

**By Senior Airman Lee S. Smith
Editor**

Preparations are under way for Kirkuk's Sports Day, which will take place Sunday beginning at 7 a.m.

At the last Sports Day, the Army's 173rd Airborne Brigade edged out the 506th Expeditionary Services Squadron in the overall competition.

Sunday's events will include a swim relay, flag football competition and a fitness challenge to go along with the volleyball, three-on-three basketball and tug of war.

Schedule of events:

Football, 7 a.m.

4X100 meter relay, 7 a.m.

Volleyball, 8 a.m.

Three-on-three basketball, 9 a.m.

Tug of war, 10 a.m.

Fitness Challenge-1 p.m.

Boat race, 2 p.m. (at the base pool)

Swim relay, 3 p.m. (at base pool)

All times are local. For more information, contact your unit sports rep or call 460-0172.

Labor run

Runners take off for the Labor Day 5K Fun Run outside of the fitness center Monday. Winners of the race were Shawn Fitzgerald, 173rd Airborne Brigade, followed by Janis Vjaters, Latvians; and Paul Larson. Claudia Denton, 506th Expeditionary Communications Squadron, won for the women. Aleksandra Heinsohn and Lisa Krejci, 506th Expeditionary Medical Squadron, were second and third, respectively. The run had more than 450 participants as well as 20 volunteers.

Photo by Senior Airman Lee S. Smith



KRAB shows talent in contest

By Senior Airman Lee S. Smith
Editor

After two competitions, a singer took top honors at the finals of the first-ever Krab Talent Show at the clamshell Saturday.

Staff Sgt. Lisa Glenn, the first place winner, said she had never entered a talent show before, but this wasn't the first time she has sang in front of people.

"I have been singing all of my life," she said. "I started singing in church and I have sang the National Anthem at promotions, change of commands and sporting events, but this is the first time I have ever sang in front of judges."

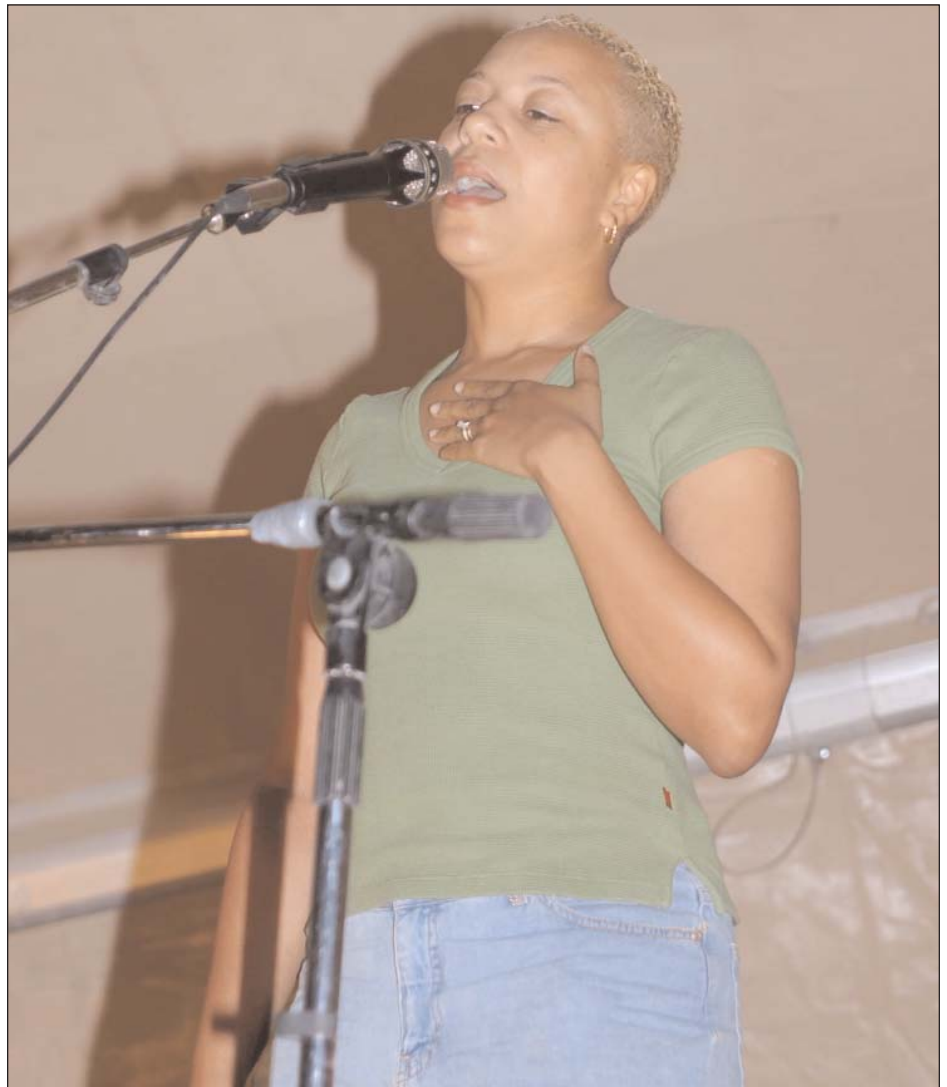
Glenn, a member of the 506th Expeditionary Operations Support Squadron, said she was nervous at first, even with her experience.

"The song I chose was a gospel song called 'His Eye is on the Sparrow,'" she said. "I think the crowd liked it. I felt the song was a reminder that without his protection over us here, things would be a lot different."

Glenn, along with seven other acts, qualified for Saturday's final during the first talent show. The other finalists who performed Saturday were: the Choir, Jason Marshall and Dan Pilo; Senior Airman Samantha Johnson, 506th Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron; Staff Sgt. Rick Schweim, 506th Expeditionary Aircraft



Jason Marshall and Dan Pilo, both with the Army, perform a two-man act Aug. 25.



Photos by Tech. Sgt. Charlein Sheets

Glenn sings "His Eye is on the Sparrow" at the clamshell Saturday during the finals.

Maintenance Squadron; Nick Hardy, Luther Gourdine and Jason Price, 506th Expeditionary Services Squadron.

The acts were judged by Col. James Callahan, 506th AEG commander; Capt. Shelia Wilson, 506th AEG chapel; Senior Airman Katara Baber, 506th ECES; Senior Airman Gary Foust, 506th Expeditionary Communications Squadron; and Lt. Col. Yolanda Geddie, 506th Expeditionary Medical Squadron.

A \$350 gift certificate was given to

Glenn for finishing first. A \$250 gift certificate went to Marshall and Pilo for finishing second and Schweim earned a \$200 gift certificate for coming in third place.

As for the winner, she said more could be in store ... if she can make travel arrangements.

"I've thought about trying out for American Idol competition, but with me being stationed in Alaska right now, I don't think I'll make the audition," Glenn said.

Chaplain gives 'mass' assistance

By Tech. Sgt. Mark Getsy
506th Air Expeditionary Group
Public Affairs

Army personnel stationed around Kirkuk City were given a unique opportunity to practice their faith in a place many people would have never thought possible just a few months ago.

Soldiers of the 4th Infantry Division gathered to take part in a Catholic Mass held at the current home of the 1-12th Infantry Unit – the former home of Ali Hassan al-Majid, better known as “Chemical Ali.”

Chap. (Lt. Col.) Joseph Vu, 506th Air Expeditionary Group chaplain at Kirkuk, provided the Mass.

“Spiritual health is important for total well-being,” he said. “A soldier needs spiritual strength in addition to physical strength for his mission and personal problems.”

The chaplain said being in a geographically separated location, the soldiers do not have access to other support agencies, and he feels chaplain support is important to fill that void.

“The desert, a remote environment, makes a person look inward,” he said. “Chaplains can provide an ear for those who need it, especially when the issues relate to confidentiality.”

Holding the Mass in one of Chemical Ali’s residence may have



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Mark Getsy

Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Joseph Vu serves a “combat breakfast” to a local soldier in downtown Kirkuk recently.

been a coincidence because it was the home to most of the soldiers, but the chaplain knew that his services were needed there.

“Knowing who he (Chemical Ali) was, with the past history of using chemical weapons on the Kurds and his house being a place to conduct torture and other criminal acts, I didn’t hesitate to conduct Mass there in order to purify and bless the place and pray for the soldiers who reside there. I also felt the need to be there because their compound recently came under a mortar attack – I wanted to pray for them.”

The Air Force chaplain was called upon to conduct the service because there’s a limited presence of Army priests in the area and many of the Catholic soldiers didn’t have the opportunity to consult with a priest on their spiritual life issues.

“This Mass was an extremely important event for our soldiers because several of them haven’t

attended Mass since May,” said Army Chaplain (Capt.) Harry Byrd, battalion chaplain. “We do have EMEs (Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist), but they cannot give a full Mass and offer the counseling and Confession time. I could see that this time meant a great deal for our soldiers. The soldiers need words of encouragement that are from their own faith background.”

This wasn’t the first or the last time for Vu to administer Mass for deployed troops. In the past, he has provided Catholic Mass at many bare-base locations and even on the Kitty Hawk while stationed in the Persian Gulf. He plans to continue to provide the services the soldiers need – anytime and anywhere.

“I have always had a great relationship with the Army, and am ready to care for them at anytime,” he said. “I’m glad to have the opportunity to provide these services in Iraq. We are ‘One Team – One Fight.’”



Photo by Staff Sgt. James Williams

Vu conducts Bible services in Kirkuk City for local soldiers.

Scores and more

MLB standings

(as of Thursday)

American League

East	W	L	GB
NYN	83	54	-
BOS	81	58	3
TOR	69	69	14.5
BAL	62	76	21.5
TB	54	83	29
Central			
MIN	73	66	-
CHW	73	66	-
KC	65	61	1
CLE	62	78	11.5
DET	36	102	36.5
West			
OAK	83	56	-
SEA	81	58	2
ANA	67	72	16
TEX	64	76	19.5

National League

East	W	L	GB
ATL	87	52	-
FLA	75	64	12
PHI	75	64	12
MON	71	70	17
NYM	62	76	24.5
Central			
HOU	72	66	-
STL	73	67	-
CHC	72	67	.5
PIT	63	73	8
MIL	62	77	10.5
CIN	60	79	12.5
West			
SF	85	53	-
LA	72	65	12.5
ARI	70	69	15.5
COL	65	76	21.5
SD	57	82	28.5

In other headlines...

Tennis ... Americans Andre Agassi and Lindsay Davenport have reached the quarter-finals of the U.S. Open tournament.

Chapel Schedule

Saturday

7 p.m. -- Catholic Mass

Sunday

8 a.m. -- Gospel Service

9 a.m. -- Catholic Mass (Sky Soldier chapel)

10 a.m. -- General Protestant

11:30 a.m. -- Catholic Mass

1 p.m. -- Latter-Day Saints

2 p.m. -- Catholic Mass (Sky Soldiers Chapel)

7 p.m. -- Protestant Service

Tuesday

6:30 p.m. Growing as a Christian: Studying the Book of James

5 and 6:30 p.m. -- Building Your Faith: Studying the Book of Hebrews

Wednesday

8 a.m. -- Biblical Heritage in Kirkuk area

5 p.m. -- Building Faith

9 a.m. Catholic Mass (Sky Soldier chapel)

All services are held at the Ten Days From Tomorrow Chapel unless otherwise noted. Times are subject to change. Jewish, Muslim, Buddhist and others should contact chapel administration for updates of their religious requirements and support.



Courtesy photo

Lift off

Master Sgt. Dennis Jones, 506th Expeditionary Services Squadron, attempts a lift during the Aug. 27 Bench Press competition held at the Sky Soldiers Fitness Center. The top weight lifted was 405 pounds by Joe Meadows of the 173rd Airborne Brigade.

Explosive ordnance disposal item of the week

HAND GRENADE – These weapons are easily concealed explosive items that have the capability to cause great harm through both blast and fragmentation. They are generally the size of a hand tool. If found, do not attempt to touch or move the item, as they have the capability of being booby-trapped. Mark the area in accordance with the Airman's Manual, and contact the 506th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron's Explosive Ordnance Disposal with the location and a point of contact.



Courtesy photo

Commonly used phone numbers

ATOC	460-0038
BDOC	460-0960
Cantina	460-0811
CC Supt. Section ...	460-0099
CE Cust. Serv.....	460-0058
Chaplain	460-0129
Command Chief	460-0052
Command Post.	460-0077
COMM Help Desk ...	460-0000
Contracting	460-0860
Dining Facility.....	460-0605
EMEDS	460-0802
EOD	460-0903
Fire Department	460-0030
Finance	460-0866
First Sergeant.....	460-0016
Fitness Center	460-0271
Latvians	460-0065
Legal	460-0117
Lodging	460-0806
Logistics Plans	460-0194
OSI	460-0326
PERSCO	460-0625/0627
Public Affairs	460-0131
Protocol	460-0260
Safety	460-0090
Supply	460-0039

For a complete listing of agencies' telephone numbers, log onto <http://www.krab.aorcentaf.af.mil/Phonebooks.htm>.

What's Your Sign?

LEO (*July 23 - Aug. 21*) This person's karmic fate and method of reception of energies is very proud, gregarious, dramatic, dignified, and desires self expression. Most often this manifests in the area of life dealing with imagination, fantasies, inner feelings, and domestic life.

Make sure your gigline is adjusted. You never know who will ambush you.

VIRGO (*Aug. 23 - Sept. 21*) Everyone is talking about your attempts to set a new fashion trend. They just can't do it to your face without laughing.

LIBRA (*Sept. 22 - Oct. 22*) Go ahead and volunteer for that special task. I'm sure someone else will volunteer to do your job while you're gone.

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23 - Nov. 21*) Look, it's really simple. If it tastes like a rotting skunk corpse, don't put it in your mouth.

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 21 - Dec. 21*) If a UXO explodes and your eardrums burst, will your legs make a sound when they fall to the ground?

CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22 - Jan. 20*) You have a natural power to bring a sense of

peace and happiness to a room ... right after you leave. Go now.

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 21 - Feb. 18*) Don't take flak from your co-workers. Show them what those webbed-toes are really used for.

PISCES (*Feb. 19 - March 20*) Did you hear? That freak, Aquarius, has webbed toes.

ARIES (*March 21 - April 20*) No, it isn't a nightmare. You really did volunteer to burn poop, sleep with nine other guys, and work for a guy with the call sign, "Viper."

TAURUS (*April 21- May 20*) People will usually move away from a large vehicle coming toward them. A test of this theory will not win approval from your peers.

GEMINI (*May 21 - June 20*) The phrase "work smarter, not harder" only applies if you actually work.

CANCER (*June 21 - July 22*) Question authority. I'm sure our Iraqi detainees would love some American company.

Fixin' it

Airman 1st Class Gilberto Wilson, 506th Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron, fixes a flat tire while deployed to Kirkuk Air Base, Iraq. Wilson works at the vehicle maintenance shop, located near the armory. The shop is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Mark Getsy